



Minutes Rio Salado Advisory Commission January 26, 2010

Minutes of the Rio Salado Advisory Commission held on January 26, 7:00 PM at the Rio Salado Operations Center, 620 N. Mill Ave., Tempe, Arizona.

Members Present:

Michael Curlee
Sharon Doyle
Mary Hannaman
Julie Ramsey
Brett Siegal

Members Absent:

Alana Chavez-Langdon
Eric Emmert
Sue Lofgren

City Staff Present:

Diane Johnson
Nancy Ryan

Guests Present:

Michael Curlee called the meeting to order at 7:09 PM.

Agenda Item 1 – Consideration of Meeting Minutes from December 8, 2009

Nancy Ryan asked the commission members if there was a motion to approve the RSAC minutes from December 8, 2009.

MOTION: Mary Hannaman moved to approve minutes

SECOND: Sharon Doyle

DECISION: Minutes were approved unanimously

Agenda Item 2 – Public Appearances

There were no public appearances.

Agenda Item 3 – Election of Officers

Nancy asked for a nomination for Chair of the Rio Salado Advisory Commission (RSAC).

MOTION: Mary nominated Alana Chavez-Langdon to be Chair of the RSAC

SECOND: Brett Siegal

DECISION: Alana Chavez-Langdon was unanimously approved

Nancy asked for a nomination for Vice-Chair of the RSAC.

MOTION: Brett nominated Michael Curlee to be Vice-Chair of the RSAC

SECOND: Sharon Doyle

DECISION: Michael was unanimously approved

Agenda Item 4 – Pedestrian Bridge

Nancy gave a PowerPoint presentation on the dam replacement and the construction of the Pedestrian Bridge across the west dam. The dam replacement will be all four sections of the dam and take 12 months to complete with water levels being maintained by coffer dams. After installation of the fourth bladder the installation of the Pedestrian Bridge will begin. The steel beams for the bridge are being welded together at an off sight location and they will come in as preformed pieces to be set on the piers.

General discussion regarding the **Pedestrian Bridge**, including:

- Sharon asked when the ADOT widening of the 202 would be completed. Nancy reported the widening of the 202 is projected to be completed in May.

Agenda Item 5 – Tempe/Mesa Path

Nancy gave a PowerPoint presentation on the Tempe/Mesa Path. ADYE Design is the landscape architect for the 2-mile path project starting at McClintock Drive, going under the 101 & 202 interchange, then ending at Dobson Road. In the plan there is a conceptual design for a under pass at McClintock.

The Mesa side of the path overlooks the Salt River on the north side and water treatment ponds on the south side. For safety there will be railing at different locations along the path but you will be able to see through it. One design challenge is a pinch point at the intersection from the 202 to the southbound 101 where it is 18" high. The concept is to have the path wander into the riverbed and out on a ledge to be able to get by this section.

General discussion regarding the **Tempe/Mesa Path**, including:

- Mary asked if it was a gravel path. Nancy stated on the Tempe side we are anticipating a lighted 10 to 12 ft. wide concrete path with vegetation along the path.
- Michael asked if Indian Bend Wash connects to Indian Bend Road. Nancy stated yes, it connects north for 10 to 12 miles. The path will soon be connected all the way to Shea Blvd.

Agenda Item 6 - Committee Updates

- Friends of Rio Salado – There was no report.
- Tempe Papago Park Master Plan Ad Hoc Committee – Sharon Doyle reported the final Papago Park Master Plan should be completed this week by Olsson & Associates. Nancy asked Sharon to let the commissioners know when there will be public meetings concerning the plan. Sharon announced that the budget balancing forums are coming up and she urged everyone to get involved in the process. Nancy stated you can go to <http://www.tempe.gov/budgetplan> for information about Tempe's Budget Plan.
- Enhanced Services Commission – Nancy Ryan reported at the January 14th ESC meeting the members were given the same dam replacement/Pedestrian Bridge presentation as the RSAC and was presented with a preliminary Community Facilities District (CFD) budget for FY 2010/2011.

General discussion regarding the **Committee Updates**, including:

- Sharon asked if the city is receiving any stimulus money. Nancy stated stimulus money was awarded to the water, transportation, PD, and fire departments. You can go to <http://www.tempe.gov/recovery> for a list of American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funding.

Agenda Item 7 – Project Updates

- Last week a State of Emergency was declared due to the weather. Town Lake was closed on Friday, January 22, 2010 at 5 a.m. and is currently closed to boating. Two bladders at the downstream dam were lowered Friday morning and by 4:30 pm the same day they were inflated back-up because water flows had decreased significantly. Everything went smoothly with the water flows and staff is planning to re-open the lake tomorrow.
- Downstream dam replacement has been delayed due to the water releases.
- Playa Del Norte Park has been completed. Nancy passed around pictures of the water retention area of the park.
- Staff has restarted a conversation with Papago Stables to move the trail ride operations to north of the 202 freeway.
- Rio East Linear Park will open in the next few weeks.
- The city will be renewing the bypass pumping contract.
- In March ADOT will open the path along the north side of Town Lake.
- Sharon announced the Tempe Sister City, Hackett House and Wildflower Bread Company have joined together to raise funds for Haiti. On January 25-29 from 11 am to 2 pm bread bowls & soup will be served for \$10. All proceeds will be donated to the Red Cross.
- Sharon also announced on Tuesday, February 23, 2010 Tempe Leadership is having a Tempe Leadership Recruitment Reception at Heidi's Events and Catering.
- Nancy reported Rio Salado staff is working with the Parks & Recreation department to craft a new boat concessionaire RFP.
- Rio Salado staff is moving out of the trailer in March/April and moving into the Orchid House.

The committee's next meeting will be **February 23**.

The meeting was **adjourned at 8:10 PM**

Prepared by: Diane Johnson
Reviewed by: Nancy Ryan

Nancy Ryan
Rio Salado Manager